

BLAST OFF

Houston, we have a Flower Show!



April 22-23, 2026

**Presented by The Garden Club of Houston
A GCA Flower Show**



The purpose of The Garden Club of America is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening; to share the advantage of association by means of educational meetings, conferences, correspondence and publications; and to restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement.

The purpose of a flower show is threefold: to set standards of artistic and horticultural excellence; to broaden knowledge of horticulture, floral design, conservation, photography and other related areas; and to share the beauty of a show with fellow club members and with the public.

The Garden Club of America

Flower Show & Judging Guide, 2024 Edition

www.gcamerica.org

The Garden Club of Houston was established in 1924, became a member of GCA in 1932 and currently has 394 members.

EDUCATION INFORMATION

The educational focus of Blast Off! is conservation through reforestation as demonstrated in the Division V Exhibit "From Seedlings to Skylines: America's Reforestation Mission."

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Since 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is incredible potential. As the nation's largest donor- and volunteer-supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"), ages 5 through young adulthood in communities across the country. BBBS develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

Cover artwork and graphics by Jenny Kempner

The Garden Club of Houston

Member of the Garden Club of America

Presents

BLAST OFF

Houston, we have a Flower Show!

A Garden Club of America Flower Show

Wednesday, April 22 and

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Big Brothers Big Sisters

1003 Washington Avenue

Houston, TX 77002

Open to the public

April 23rd 12:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Free of Charge



Contents

Timetable for Exhibitors	4
Flower Show Committee	6
GCA Rules	9
General Information	10
Division I: Floral Design	
Constellations	
Guidelines	12
Classes	14
Division II: Horticulture	
Galactic Gardens	
Guidelines	16
Classes	18
Division III: Photography	
Shoot for the Stars	
Guidelines	24
Classes	27
Division IV: Botanical Arts	
Exploring the Galaxy	
Guidelines	29
Classes	32
Division V: Education	
Majestic Mission	
Guidelines	35
Education Exhibit	36
GCA Flower Show Awards	37
GCH Club Awards	40
REGISTRATION FORMS	42
Map & Directions to the Flower Show	48

Timetable for Exhibitors

July 22, 2025

Horticulture- Nine-month ownership deadline

September 22, 2025

Registration opens for GCH members only, in all divisions, except Horticulture.
Registration for Horticulture opens to all GCA club members.

October 20, 2025

Registration opens for all GCA club members in all divisions except photography

October 22, 2025

Horticulture- Six-month ownership deadline

November 17, 2025

Registration for photography opens to all GCA club members

January 22, 2026

Horticulture- Three-month ownership deadline

January 22, 2026

Registration closes for all divisions

March 1, 2026

Floral Design Entry Cards and a 4" x 6" unlined white index card for statement of intent will be mailed to entrants

March 24, 2026

Photography entry delivery deadline

April 1, 2026

Botanical Arts entry delivery deadline

April 15, 2026

Botanical Arts entries passed

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

All day show set up at Big Brothers Big Sisters

9:00 a.m. Photography and Botanical Arts Chairs to set up their divisions

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Floral Design entries accepted and passed

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Horticulture cut specimens and container grown plants accepted and passed

6:30 p.m. Judges Dinner

Thursday, April 23, 2026

7:00 - 9:00 a.m. Floral Design entries accepted and passed

7:00 - 9:00 a.m. Horticulture cut specimens only accepted and passed (except for out of town exhibitors)

9:30 -10:00 a.m. Judges and Clerks briefing

10:00 a.m. Judging

12:30 - 5:00 p.m. Flower Show open to the public

1:00 p.m. Flower Show evaluation

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Cocktail Reception and Show Viewing (ticketed event)

Friday, April 24, 2026

8:00 a.m - 10:00 a.m Takedown



Flower Show Committee

Co-Chair Wendy Askew 713-540-1028
wwa@texaskew.com
Co-Chair Jan Bres 713-594-0825
jtbres@sbcglobal.net
Club President Ruthie Kelly 713-417-0801
ruthkelly5646@gmail.com

Division I – Floral Design

Chair Tara Caldwell 832-721-3741
tthmcaldwell@sbcglobal.net
Co-Chair Marianna Brewster 713-515-2939
mariannabrewster@gmail.com

Division II – Horticulture

Chair Nancy Kelley 713-824-4277
nancywilsonkelley@gmail.com
Co-Chair Estelle Lozmack 713-724-4304
emlozmack@gmail.com
Bottles Catherine Zdunkewicz 713-392-7360
czdunkewicz@comcast.net
Grooming Angela Peterman 713-416-3139
angela.peterman@comcast.net
Placement Judy Lee 713-828-3576
judylee.tx@gmail.com
Dana Hartwell 713-824-4869
djh3820@me.com
Plant ID Meg Tapp 832-287-8277
megtapp@icloud.com
Jackie Wallace 713-859-1012
jackiow@me.com
Plant Inspection Brenda Atkins 713-206-3533
tatkins2@comcast.net
Registration Susan Cravens 713-805-4155
sccravens@comcast.net
Runners Michele Clements 832-228-8688
mmclements@me.com
Winifred Riser 713-320-3403
winnieriser@gmail.com



Division III – Photography

Co-Chair	Mimi Kerr	713-501-9017 mimi.kerr@icloud.com
Co-Chair	Margaret Pierce	713-854-8049 margaret.m.pierce@icloud.com

Division IV – Botanical Arts

Chair	Shirley Rouse	713-446-4144 shirley.rouse@sbcglobal.net
Co-Chair	Kelly Moneyhan	713-295-0053 kmoneyhan1@gmail.com

Division V – Education

Chair	Sue White	713-304-3372 sueandbuz@earthlink.net
Co-Chair	Adele Bentsen	713-819-7821 adelebentsen@me.com
Co-Chair	Amy Lee	713-557-3335 amylee@sbcglobal.net
Co-Chair	Julie Price	713-446-5402 jringoprice@gmail.com

Flower Show Committee Chairs

Awards	Nancy Keely	713-201-6281 nancydaviskeely@mac.com
Judges Chair	Liz Wozencraft	713-252-3720 lizwoz@att.net
Clerks	Renee Davis	832-215-5766 rdominguedavis@hotmail.com
Hospitality	Karen Ytterberg	713-569-2148 kytterberg@aol.com
Cocktail Party	Kelly Duenner	713-822-4131 kmduenner@gmail.com
	Kate Gibson	713-304-5257 kgibson@hobbycomm.com
	Susan Solcher	713-444-1930 ssolcher@hotmail.com
	Elizabeth Copeland	713-598-3123 elizabeth@swiftevents.com



Judges Dinner	Jenny Kempner	713-253-4031 jennykempner@yahoo.com
	Colleen Smith	832-248-4098 colleendsmith@me.com
Judges Luncheon	Julie Griffin	713-202-7175 juliegriffin@comcast.net
Judges Hospitality	Laurie Allen	713-419-7069 llallen64@aol.com
	Mary Jane Gallagher	832-876-7494 gallagher503@sbcglobal.net
Nametags	Dina Ormiston	713-557-5056 dormiston@comcast.net
Printing	Nancy Keely	713-201-6281 nancydaviskeely@mac.com
Publicity	Lacy Price	713-446-3368 lacyprice@me.com
Registration		
Floral Design	Tara Caldwell	832-721-3741 tthmcaldwell@sbcglobal.net
Horticulture	Nancy Kelley	713-824-4277 nancywilsonkelley@gmail.com
Photography	Mimi Kerr	713-501-9017 mimi.kerr@icloud.com
Botanical Arts	Shirley Rouse	713-446-4144 shirley.rouse@sbcglobal.net
Schedule Writers Wendy Askew, Jan Bres, Marianna Brewster, Tara Caldwell, Nancy Keely, Nancy Kelley, Mimi Kerr, Estelle Lozmack, Kelly Moneyhan, Margaret Pierce, Shirley Rouse		
Show Photographer	Cristi Harvey	713-494-2002 cristiharvey@gmail.com
Signage/Graphics	Nancy Keely	713-201-6281 nancydaviskeely@mac.com
	Jenny Kempner	713-253-4031 jennykempner@yahoo.com
Staging	Dianna Patterson	713-206-8766 dianna783@icloud.com
Technology	Sheila Mayfield	713-299-3708 sheilamayfield@comcast.net
Treasurer	Sara Ledbetter	713-854-5555 sara@ledbetterhome.net

GCA Rules

1. Please carefully read and follow GCA Flower Show Rules, General Information, and Division Guidelines. All rules as stated in The Garden Club of America Flower Show and Judging Guide (FS & JG), 2024 edition, shall apply.
2. All plant material must be correctly identified with the botanical and common names, if possible. Accepted references for nomenclature are:
 - a. Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder at <https://missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx>
 - b. Royal Horticultural Society - Find a Plant at <https://rhs.org.uk/plants/search-Form>
 - c. GCA Flower Show Committee - [Botanical Nomenclature](#)
3. The Garden Club of America expects all exhibitors to be aware of the need to promote the conservation of endangered and threatened plants. Plants collected in the wild and listed by Texas as rare may not be exhibited in any flower show sponsored by a GCA club. Cultivated plant material listed by Texas as rare may be exhibited if accompanied by a typed card stating that it has not been collected from the wild or that it was collected out-of-state and giving information concerning its cultural requirements and methods of propagation. Lists of endangered plant material will be available before the show, during passing from the division chairs and online by searching for Texas rare plant list.
4. Plant material showing evidence of insects or disease must be removed immediately from the exhibition area. This rule will be enforced during the show when the problem is identified.
5. Use of the following items is not permitted in Floral Design, Horticulture, Botanical Arts and Education classes: locally endangered or invasive plants, diseased plant material, artificial plant material, live animals of any kind, taxidermy, natural birds' nests, feathers of any kind, bones, coral, hooves, horns, fur, hair (except wool), shells (sea, turtle, egg, etc.). Photography classes are exempt from this rule, but all photographs must show respect for the natural world and be taken in an ethically responsible way. Information on invasive plants is available online by searching for Texas's invasive plant list.

General Information

1. Entries are open to all GCA club members, including provisionals, and professionals in their disciplines, except as noted in the schedule.
2. All designs must be the original work of the exhibitor(s). Although techniques and components may be inspired by other designs, the application of the techniques and components must create an original design that is distinct from the inspiration.
3. Registration is required for all classes, with the exception of those in the Horticulture Division that are weather-dependent (cut specimens, etc.). Registration forms are provided at the back of the schedule.
4. Classes will be filled in the order registration forms are received according to the postmark/email date and time.
5. Entering a show constitutes permission to use images of the exhibitor's work in all GCA channels of communication.
6. While The Garden Club of America, The Garden Club of Houston, and Big Brothers Big Sisters will exercise due caution in safeguarding exhibits, responsibility for damage, loss, or personal injury cannot be assumed.
7. Any clarification or change in the rules, as originally stated in the schedule, shall be communicated promptly in writing by the division chairs to all exhibitors in the class and, at the show, to the judges and the passing committee.
8. An entry card must accompany each entry. Entry cards will be available at the show and upon request from the registration or division chairs in advance of the show. Information required on the entry card must be completed in black waterproof medium. If a sample or key card will be displayed with the entry, it is acceptable to write "See Key card or Sample card" in lieu of listing plant material on the entry card.
9. **The passing committee must pass each entry before the exhibitor(s) may leave the show area.** The passing committee reserves the right to refuse any entry that does not conform to the rules of the schedule. The exhibitor has the option of correcting the entry if time permits. If not corrected, the entry cannot be judged but may remain in place, marked "For Exhibit Only" with a brief, constructively worded statement explaining why it was not judged. Judges may not disqualify any entry passed by the passing committee unless insect infestation or disease is evident.

10. Once an entry is passed, the exhibitor(s) must immediately leave the show floor. The only exception will be flower show committee members who have entered and been passed according to the timetable. A passed entry may not be touched again by the exhibitor until after judging and then only to carry out necessary maintenance.
11. Only participating judges and clerks will be allowed on the show floor during judging. Flower Show Chairmen and division chairs should remain nearby but off the show floor until needed.
12. Containers and accessories should be inconspicuously labeled with the exhibitor's name.
13. A novice is an exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the division entered at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA, or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. An exhibitor who has won first place or a Special Award in a division is still a novice in the other divisions. The exhibitor must be exhibiting alone to be eligible for the GCA Novice Award or the Sandra Baylor Novice Floral Design Award. Novice award eligibility is marked on the entry card and confirmed at passing.
14. A statement of intent, if required by the class, must be submitted at the time of passing. The statement must be no more than 25 words, typed or printed in black waterproof medium on a 4" x 6" white unlined index card.
15. All Judges' decisions are final.
16. All exhibits must remain in place and in show condition until fifteen minutes following the closing time of the show.



Division I: Floral Design

Constellations

Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Advance registration opens for GCH members on September 22, 2025, and opens for all GCA club members on October 20, 2025. Registration is required by January 22, 2026.
3. An exhibitor is permitted only one entry per class but may enter two classes.
4. The exhibitor(s) under whose name(s) the entry has been registered must create and complete the design. All participants must be listed on the entry card. Only listed exhibitors and show personnel may be on the show floor at the time of entry.
5. No more than two exhibitors may execute a design unless otherwise stated in the schedule.
6. If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify the division chair and class consultant and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
7. Although discouraged, designs may be executed off-site and brought to the show completed. Exhibitors are encouraged to execute the design on-site. Work tables and trash cans will be provided.
8. All entries must include fresh and/or dried plant material. Fresh plant material must be in water or conditioned in such a way as to remain in pristine form while on exhibition. Rooted plant material is allowed provided no soil is attached. An entry not maintained in show condition may have its award removed.
9. Mechanics should not be visible unless they are an integral part of the design.
10. A statement of intent is not required, but strongly encouraged. See General Information item #14.

11. Anything not prohibited in the GCA Rules, Floral Design Division Guidelines, or individual class descriptions is permitted.
12. Floral designs have no height restrictions unless otherwise stated in the schedule.
13. Although permitted, the use of cut fruits and vegetables is discouraged and should be undertaken only with proper treatment to prevent spoilage and insect contamination.
14. Accessories are permitted unless otherwise stated in the class description.
15. Pedestals may not be moved. Tops of pedestals may not be enlarged or draped.
16. Pertinent paint color information will be available from the division chair after registration form is received.
17. All designs must be removed no later than 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 24, 2026.
18. Questions regarding class requirements may be directed to the class consultant and/or division chair.
19. Judging will be based on the principles of design (balance, contrast, dominance, proportion, rhythm, and scale) and the elements of design (light, space, line, form, color, texture, pattern, and size). Creativity, distinction, conformance to and interpretation of the class and schedule are also considered.
20. Scale of points by which the classes are to be judged:

Design	35
Creativity	20
Interpretation	20
Distinction	15
<u>Conformance</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	100

(as per *FS & JG Book 4: Judging at Flower Shows, 2024 edition*).

Division I Chairmen:

Tara Caldwell	832-721-3741	tthmcaldwell@sbcglobal.net
Marianna Brewster	713-515-2939	mariannabrewster@gmail.com

Division I: Floral Design

Constellations

Classes



Class 1 Count Your Lucky Stars

4 Entries

Create a design inspired by a constellation. Viewed and judged from three sides. Design will be staged on an acrylic pedestal measuring 40" tall and with a 14" square top. Design may not exceed more than 15" from the center of the pedestal. Constellations assigned in order of request. Choose from one of the following:

1. Orion, The Hunter
2. Cygnus, The Swan
3. Leo, The Lion
4. Ursa Major, The Big Bear
5. Scorpius, The Scorpion
6. Cassiopeia, The Queen

Class 2 Big Bang

4 Entries

Create a design that comes alive with color and movement. Viewed and judged from three sides. Design will be staged on an acrylic pedestal measuring 40" tall and with a 14" square top. Design may not exceed more than 15" from the center of the pedestal.

Class 3 First Launch

11 Entries

Create a monochromatic design inspired by colors seen in outer space, such as the blue of Earth, the reds in Mars or the yellows of the Sun. Any color is permitted. Viewed and judged from three sides. Staged on a 36" tall table with a black tablecloth. Design has no height restriction but may not exceed more than 12" in width or depth. Container will be provided. Open to Provisional Members of The Garden Club of Houston only.

Monochromatic Design: *a design incorporating plant material of just one color, including the shades and tints of the hue. A small amount of green foliage is allowed with the chosen single color; small bits of attached non-conforming floral parts are permitted e.g., the yellow center of a purple aster. Unless stated in the schedule, the container, bases, and/or stands do not need to be the same color. FS & JG Book 5: Glossary of Terms*

Class 4 Zero Gravity

4 Entries

Create a design suspended in a white, open frame measuring 16" wide, 24" tall, atop a 14" square base. The frame will be staged on a white wooden pedestal 40" tall. The open frame will be provided at the show. Viewed and judged from all sides.

Class 5 Parallel Universe

4 Entries

Create a parallel design that is out of this world. Viewed and judged from three sides. Design will be staged on a white wooden pedestal measuring 40" tall and with a 14" square top. Design may not exceed more than 15" from the center of the pedestal.

Parallel Design: *a design in which plant material (and other components if not prohibited) are placed in strongly parallel groupings with open space between; may be vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Additional components may be placed at any angle at the base as connectives. Multiple containers may be used, but design must appear as a single unit. FS & JG Book 5: Glossary of Terms*

Class 6 Celestial Crown

4 Entries

Create a couture hat design fit for a star-studded, galactic gala. Viewed and judged from three sides. Design will be staged on a white wooden pedestal measuring 40" tall and with a 14" square top. Design may not exceed more than 15" from the center of the pedestal. Hat not supplied. To be mounted on a mannequin head provided by the committee at the show.

Division II: Horticulture

Galactic Gardens

Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Advance registration for classes 59-62 opens on September 22, 2025 and closes January 22, 2026. Registration form can be found at the end of the schedule and should be emailed to Nancy Kelley at nancywilsonkelley@gmail.com.
3. An exhibitor may submit three entries per class, provided each is a different species or cultivar.
4. Entries must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months (October 22, 2025) unless otherwise stated in the schedule.
5. An entry card must accompany each entry. Entry cards and propagation cards are available for download from GCAmerica.org or from the division chairs at the show. Information on the entry card must be in pencil or completed online and printed on cardstock.
6. Entries eligible for the **Catherine Beattie Medal** and/or the **Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award** must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for at least six months (October 22, 2025) and may not have won the award previously. Eligibility will be marked on the entry card and confirmed at passing.
7. All entries propagated by the exhibitor must be identified with details of the method and relevant date(s) on an accompanying propagation card to be eligible for the **Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award**.
8. Mats and stands are not allowed unless otherwise stated. Saucers, stakes, and ties are allowed. If an entry is to be staked (such as a forced bulb or orchid), the support and ties must be as unobtrusive as possible.
9. Leaf polish or other commercial foliage enhancers are not permitted.

10. Classes may be subdivided, and entries moved and/or reclassified at the discretion of the show committee and/or the judges.
11. Containers are measured at the diameter or the diagonal of the widest point on the inside of the rim at the soil line. Maximum container size is 8" in diameter, unless stated in the class description.
12. One key card (diagram or plant list) is required when multiple species or cultivars are exhibited in the same container and/or propagation information is applicable. Key card must be a 4" x 6" white unlined index card completed in black waterproof medium. A 4" x 6" photograph with identifying numbers may be used.
13. Container-grown plants must be exhibited in containers that are clean, unobtrusive, and compatible with the exhibit. Terracotta clay pots are preferred. Other options include stone-like (Hypertufa), wire baskets, slatted orchid baskets, and plants mounted on driftwood. Disguised double potting and top dressing are permitted; top dressing must not float when watered.
14. The committee will provide containers and wedging materials for all cut specimens, unless otherwise stated in the class. The committee is not responsible for any cut specimen container provided by an exhibitor. Height restriction, unless otherwise stated in the class description, is 26" from the lip of the container to the tip of the specimen.
15. After registration, a dot with the entry number should be affixed to the container to ensure an entry card, if separated from the exhibit container during staging, can be returned to the proper entry before judging.
16. The committee will water the exhibits if instructed to do so in writing. Notify the division chair at time of entry with instructions for watering.
17. Questions regarding class requirements may be directed to the class consultant and/or the division chair.
18. The scale of points by which the classes are to be judged can be found in the *FS & JG Book 4: Judging at Flower Shows, 2024 edition*.

Division II Chairmen:

Nancy Kelley

713-824-4277

nancywilsonkelley@gmail.com

Estelle Lozmack

713-724-4303

emlozmack@gmail.com

Division II: Horticulture

Galactic Gardens



Classes

CUT SPECIMENS - ASTRONOMICA

Classes 1-43

One stem not to exceed 26" in length, measured from the lip of the container to the tip of the stem.

Class 1 Annuals

An annual is a plant that completes its life cycle in one growing season.

One stem – 3-month ownership requirement (01/22/2026)

1. Flowering

Classes 2 - 12 Perennials

A perennial is a plant that lives for more than two growing seasons; in Horticulture, usually applied to non-woody plants.

Flowering - one stem - any foliage must be attached to stem

2. Asclepias
3. Helleborus
4. Echinacea
5. Salvia
6. Rudbeckia
7. Other, excluding roses

Foliage – three stems of the same species or cultivar

8. Aspidistra
9. Farfugium
10. Fern
11. Other, non-variegated
12. Other, variegated

Classes 13 - 17 Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes, and Tubers

A bulb is a modified, subterranean bud, with a short, thick stem and fleshy scale leaves or leaf bases.

A corm is a subterranean storage organ consisting of a solid stem or stem base, often enclosed in a tunic.

A rhizome is a horizontal, usually branching and fleshy stem, growing underground or at ground level.

A tuber is a swollen root or underground stem with storage tissue.

13. Allium
14. Hippeastrum
15. Lilium
16. Iris
17. Other

Classes 18 - 20 Roses

Modern, Rose varieties bred after 1867- must be exhibited with at least one attached leaf containing five leaflets.

18. Climbing
19. Shrub
20. Other

Classes 21 - 31 Woody Plants

Single branch flowering – must have at least one flower and any foliage attached to the stem.

21. Gardenia
22. Hydrangea
23. Rhododendron
24. Lantana
25. Other

Single branch foliage

26. Abelia
27. Acer
28. Ilex
29. Pittosporum
30. Other

Single branch Berried/Fruiting

31. Berried/Fruiting

Classes 32 - 36 Edibles

One stem - any foliage must be attached to the stem. All stages eligible.

32. Fruit (attached to stem)
33. *Salvia rosmarinus*
34. *Origanum vulgare*
35. *Mentha*
36. Vegetables - 3-month ownership (01/22/2026)

Classes 37 - 40 Climbers and Vines

Flowering, longer than 7 inches and up to 26 inches from lip to container to tip of specimen. Must have at least one open flower.

Excluding roses.

37. *Aristolochia*
38. *Clematis*
39. *Passiflora*
40. Other

Classes 41 - 43 Collections 3-month ownership (01/22/2026)

Arrangement of cut specimens from the exhibitor's garden. Displayed in a clear glass container provided by the exhibitor. Entire arrangement is limited to 15" wide: Minimum of three different species or cultivars. Key card required.

41. Flowering; Each stem must have at least one open flower
42. Foliage
43. Combination of any specimens collected from the exhibitor's garden

CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS - PLANETARY

Containers may include more than one plant of the same species or cultivar except where noted in the class description. Maximum container size is 8" in diameter, unless stated in the class description.

Classes 44 - 46 Cacti - 9-month ownership (07/22/2025)

44. In Flower
45. Not in Flower
46. Collection of 3-7 different genera or different species in one container. Container requirement, as stated in the Horticulture Guidelines, is waived, though may not exceed 15" diameter, measured at the soil line on the interior of the container. Key card required.

Classes 47 - 52 Succulents - 9-month ownership (07/22/2025)

- 47. Agave
- 48. Aloe
- 49. Mammillaria
- 50. Euphorbia
- 51. Gasteria/Haworthia
- 52. Collection of any 3 succulents in one container. Container may not exceed 15" diameter measured at the soil line on the interior of the container. Key Card required.

Class 53 Flowering Plants

- 53. One plant per container, must be in flower

Classes 54 - 55

- 54. Non-variegated
- 55. Variegated

Class 56 Miniatures

Plants that are naturally diminutive – one plant per container

Class 57 Pairs

A matching pair of plants grown in individual containers of the same species or cultivar.

Class 58 Mother Daughter

A single plant exhibited with the mother plant from which it was propagated, in separate but compatible containers. Container requirements as stated in the Horticulture Guidelines, is waived though may not exceed 12" diameter, measured at the soil line of the interior of the container. Both the mother and daughter plants will be judged as one entry. GCA Propagation card required, available for download from GCAMerica.org.

Class 59 Moon Landing**4 entries**

Create a pot-et-fleur design of both rooted and cut plant material. Planted in a 9-inch round moon like planter to be displayed on a lunar lander inspired tray both provided by the Committee. Length of ownership waived. Painting, embellishment, and accessories are not permitted. To be viewed from all sides and above. Staged on a round table. A 4" x 6" key card and statement of intent are required. Registration and entry fee payment is required by Thursday, January 22, 2026. This entry must be entered on Wednesday, April 22, between 1:00-5:00 p.m. and passed in place.

Entry fee: \$40.00

Class 60 Moon Light**4 entries**

Create a lunar inspired garden of rooted and/or cut plant material. Planted in a quarter moon planter measuring 8 by 4 inches which will hang on a stand provided in advance by the Committee. Length of ownership waived. Painting embellishment, or accessories are not permitted. To be viewed from all sides and above. Staged on a table. A 4" x 6" key card and statement of intent are required. Registration and entry fee payment is required by Thursday, January 22, 2026. This entry must be entered on Wednesday, April 22, between 1:00-5:00 p.m. and passed in place.

Entry fee: \$30.00

Class 61 Provisional Challenge

Class is open only (and mandatory) to the Provisional Members of The Garden Club of Houston. One propagated cutting from a selection of plants propagated at the workshop on September 23, 2025 with Bart Brechter, Horticulture Curator, The Museum of Fine Arts - Houston. GCA Propagation card required, available for download from [GCAmerica.org](https://www.gcamerica.org). Registration is required by Thursday, January 22, 2026.



Class 62 Member Challenge

Up to 6 Entries

The Garden Club of Houston produced a guide titled *Great Small Trees for Houston* in 2013 which is featured in its entirety on our website GCHouston.org under the Education tab. Class is open only to members of The Garden Club of Houston who will receive a Native Fringe Tree - *Chionanthus virginicus* - to plant in a container provided by the committee. A 4" x 6" key card detailing timeline and growing conditions must be included. Distribution will be at the Wednesday, October 8, 2025 General Meeting. Registration and entry fee payment is required by Monday, September 22, 2025.

Entry fee: \$45.00

Class 63 Par

An exhibit of exceptional merit, which does not qualify for entry elsewhere in the Horticulture Division. Entries in the Par class must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of one year. Cut specimens, orchids, or hanging baskets are not permitted. Containers may not exceed 12" diameter, measured diagonally.



Division III: Photography

Shoot for the Stars

Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. An exhibitor is permitted only one entry per class but may enter two classes.
3. Advance registration opens to GCH members on September 22, 2025, and opens to all other GCA club members on November 17, 2025. Registration closes January 22, 2026.
4. If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify the division chair and class consultant and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
5. A photograph previously entered in any GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA, sanctioned non-GCA Major flower show, or a GCA *Focus* online contest *may not* be entered again even with slight alterations and/or reprinting. The same photograph may only be entered in one show at a time. If a photo is not advanced as a finalist in juried judging, it may be entered into a second juried flower show, a GCA flower show, a GCA Major flower show, or a Club flower show. Editing is allowed.
6. A photograph previously entered in a Club flower show *may be entered* into a GCA, Zone, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA or a sanctioned non-GCA Major flower show *unless* that photograph was submitted for publication in the *Focus* photography gallery or a printed issue of *Focus*.
7. All elements in photographic images must be created by the exhibitor. The composition must have been photographically captured by the exhibitor and not an AI generator. No third-party images, stock, or AI-generated images or elements are allowed in entries. Non-representational commercial overlays and textures are permitted.
8. Editing must be the work of the exhibitor. This includes enhancement for color or clarity, removal of a part of the image, combining images, or distorting the original subject. In manipulated photographs, any added imagery must be the work of the exhibitor.

9. Matting, mounting and printing may be done professionally. All photographs must be two-dimensional and printed on paper unless otherwise specified. All post-production must be done before the photograph is printed.
10. Photography entries are limited to subjects consistent with The Garden Club of America's interests such as horticulture, floral design, gardens/landscapes, conservation, the environment, historic preservation, civic improvement, and the natural world. Plant material is encouraged in all photographs and required if stated in the class description.
11. Photographs must be mounted on 3/8-inch black foam core and may not be over-matted. The overall dimension of entry must be a minimum of 40" and not exceed 60" in total perimeter measurement. Glass and framing are not permitted.
12. Each entry must have the submission form affixed to the back of the photograph mounting with the exhibitor's name, garden club, zone, email, address, phone number, and class entered. The top of the photograph must be indicated. The photography submission form is located at the end of the schedule.
13. The division chairs will provide an entry card to be staged with each photograph. Identification of plant material on the entry card is not required but is encouraged whenever possible.
14. A title or brief statement of intent (25 words or less) is required on the entry card and entry form.
15. Photographs will be hung on a screen or wall with a light background.
16. Photographs must be received no later than March 24, 2026. Send photographs to Mimi Kerr, 3763 Purdue Street, Houston, Texas 77005. Receipt of your photograph will be acknowledged. In addition, email a 1-5 MB JPEG image to mimi.kerr@icloud.com. Rename your image to YourFirstNameYourLastNameClassNumber.jpeg. (example mimikerrclass2.jpg).
17. All entries will be passed by two members of the Photography Committee or the Photography Judging Program to verify class specifications have been met. If a photograph is not passed, the exhibitor will be notified and allowed, if time permits, to send a replacement photograph.
18. No identifiable minor children may be included in photographs.

19. If a photograph is to be returned, the exhibitor must provide a self-addressed return label, envelope or mailing box, and postage and packing material. Any award received will be noted on the back of the mount before it is returned. If a photograph will not be returned, to receive the comment card and any award won, include a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Information on entering photographs, including mailing instructions, can be found on the [GCA Photography Committee landing page](#). POSTAGE: Please include a \$15 check (payable to The Garden Club of Houston) to cover return postage and handling. You may enclose stamps, UPS labels, or postage meter strips. If the return envelope and postage are not included, it will be assumed that the image will not be returned.
20. Winning images may be submitted to the Focus Gallery using the [Focus submission form](#) on the Photography Committee landing page.
21. Questions regarding class requirements may be directed to the division chairs.
22. Scale of points by which the classes are to be judged (as per FS & JG Book 4: Judging at Flower Shows, 2024 edition).

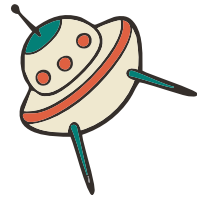
For Photography classes

Creativity	25
Composition	25
Technical skill	20
Interpretation	20
<u>Distinction</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	100



For Creative Techniques classes

Creativity	30
Composition	20
Technical skill	25
Interpretation	10
<u>Distinction</u>	<u>15</u>
Total	100



Division III Chairmen:

Mimi Kerr

713-501-9017

mimi.kerr@icloud.com

Margaret Pierce

713-854-8049

margaret.m.pierce@icloud.com

Division III: Photography

Shoot for the Stars



Classes

Class 1: “Plant-it” Earth Color 4 Entries

A traditional landscape photograph showcasing the beauty of a natural space where there is minimal or no evidence of human intervention. Plant material required.

Traditional landscape: *a view of scenery of any kind, from wilderness vistas to urban cityscapes, land, or sea. The primary subject is the scenery, and it must dominate, although the image may contain secondary elements such as people, animals, or objects. City elements predominate in cityscapes: the sea predominates in seascapes.*

Class 2: Lost in Space Color 4 Entries

A composed modern still life featuring items someone might pack for an extended journey.

Composed Still Life: *an intentional arrangement of a variety of objects to convey a visual story or allegory or to explore broader compositional concepts such as color, form, light, or shadow.*

Class 3: Orbit Color 4 Entries

An image that includes circular shapes, captured either during photography or through post-processing techniques. Creative techniques.

Creative techniques: *used to achieve a visual effect that significantly departs from a purely representational depiction of the subject matter. The visual effect may be achieved via in-camera techniques or editing. Creative techniques may include representational, abstract imagery, or both. All representative images in a photograph using creative techniques must be the work of the photographer. Nonrepresentational enhancements, such as purchased textures, are allowed.*

Class 4: Smoke and Mirrors **Color** **4 Entries**

A reflected image in a mirror or other solid reflective object where that object is visible in the image. Reflections in water or other liquids do not qualify.

Class 5: Black Hole **Color** **4 Entries**

A flat lay or scanography image with a black background of one or more flowers, utilizing negative space. Plant material required.

Flat lay: *an image taken when the camera's sensor plane is directly parallel with the picture plane (surface of the composition). Typically, a picture taken from a top-down or bottom-up position.*

Scanography: *process of capturing digitized images of objects arranged on a flatbed scanner to create photographic images.*

Class 6: I'm being followed by a Moonshadow **Monochrome** **4 Entries**

A photograph taken at night that includes the Moon and foreground elements such as trees, buildings, mountains, and people. To be printed on brushed aluminum silver tone.

Class 7: Let's Go Astros!

A composed still life (see definition in Class 2) consisting of baseball memorabilia such as helmets, bats, jerseys, balls, tickets, stadium food and drink, etc. This class is open exclusively to children and grandchildren of members of The Garden Club of Houston.

7a: Grades 6 through 12. **Color** **4 Entries**

Images are judged but are not eligible for any GCA Special Awards.

7b: Grades 1 through 5. **Color** **Number of Entries not limited**

Images are for Exhibit Only.

Note: *Photography has a separate Photography Submission Form, in addition to the Registration Form. The Photography Submission Form should be attached to the back mounting of the photograph at the time of submission. Registration Form and Submission Form are located at the end of the schedule.*

Division IV: Botanical Arts

Exploring the Galaxy

Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Registration opens for GCH members on September 22, 2025 and opens for all GCA club members on October 20, 2025. Registration and entry forms can be found at the end of schedule and should be emailed to Shirley Rouse at shirley.rouse@sbcglobal.net. Advanced registration is required by January 22, 2026.
3. All classes have registration fees, payable to The Garden Club of Houston, due at time of registration.
4. An exhibitor is permitted only one entry per class but may enter two classes.
5. The exhibitor(s) under whose name(s) the entry has been registered must create and complete the design. All participants must be listed on the entry card. All handiwork must be executed by the exhibitor(s).
6. No more than two exhibitors may execute a Botanical Arts entry.
7. If forced to withdraw, the exhibitor must notify the division chair and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
8. All plant material must be dried. This includes flowers, foliage, seeds, pods, nuts (in or out of shells), vegetables, twigs, vines, reeds, etc. While no longer officially part of the plant kingdom, dried fungi including mushrooms, lichens, etc. are permitted. Only plant material and/or fungi, mechanics and surface treatments (e.g., paint, nail polish, varnish, wax, etc.) are permitted. Use of artificial or locally endangered or invasive plant material is not permitted.

9. Entries must be assembled, carved, or shaped from plant material by the exhibitor. Man-made or manufactured figural forms as base material are not permitted. Any plant material may be cut, incised or shaped to enhance artistic effect.
10. Non-plant material (e.g., cardboard, metal, twine, string, cording, etc.) may be used only for construction and must not be visible except to knot or string plant material resembling pearls or gemstones in jewelry classes.
11. Use of commercially processed or manufactured products may not be included in the design (e.g., couscous, pasta, tapioca, milled wood, balsa wood, toothpick, loose glitter, etc.) with the exception of natural raffia, rattan and skeletonized leaves.
12. Thick coatings of resin, epoxy, lacquer or nail polish are not permitted. Gemstones should not be made only from resin, epoxy, or nail polish; they must be made from plant material.
13. Scenes, flowers, figures, borders, etc. should be created with plant material rather than decorative painting. Painting techniques such as shading, veining, marbelizing, etc., are permitted.
14. Anything not prohibited in the GCA Rules, Botanical Arts Division Guidelines, or individual class descriptions is permitted.
15. A 4" x 6" white unlined sample card must accompany each entry. Affix a small, untreated sample of all plant material to the card and indicate its placement on the entry. Plant material must be properly identified with botanical and common names. See [Botanical Nomenclature](#) from the GCA website.
16. A statement of intent (less than 25 words) is required and must be submitted with the entry. The statement should be typed or printed on a 4" x 6" white unlined card. A statement of intent is a brief comment conveying the connection between the exhibit and the class.
17. All entries must be received no later than April 1, 2026, along with a photograph of the entry. Deliver or send entries to Shirley Rouse at 714 Glen Echo, Houston, TX 77024, 713-446-4144, shirley.rouse@sbcglobal.net. If an exhibit is to be returned, the exhibitor must provide a self-addressed return label, packing material/container, and a \$15 check (payable to The Garden Club of Houston) to cover return postage and handling.

18. All entries will be passed by two members of either the Botanical Arts Committee and/or the Botanical Arts judging program to verify class specifications have been met, checking sample card and verifying location of plant material on the entry. If time permits, an entry may be returned for correction.
19. The committee will be responsible for installation of the exhibits unless otherwise stated in the schedule. Each exhibit will be handled with the utmost care. Any special instructions for handling and display must be included with the entry.
20. If an exhibit has won first place or a GCA Special Award in a GCA, GCA Major, or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show, it may not be entered into competition again. An exhibit which has been previously entered and did not place first or win a GCA Special Award may be entered again if the piece is significantly altered.

Scale of points by which the classes are to be judged: (as per *FS & JG Book 4: Judging at Flower Shows, 2024 edition*).

Design	35
Craftsmanship	30
Creativity	15
Interpretation	10
<u>Distinction</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	100

Division IV Chairmen:

Shirley Rouse	713-446-4144	shirley.rouse@sbcglobal.net
Kelly Moneyhan	713-295-0053	kmoneyhan1@gmail.com

Division IV: Botanical Arts

Exploring the Galaxy

Classes

SECTION A. BOTANICAL JEWELRY

Botanical Jewelry: *a design created entirely from dried plant material and made to resemble wearable jewelry in both size and function. Plant material may be treated. Mechanics or structural base material may not be visible.*

Class 1 Stellar Bloom

4 Entries

A radiant statement piece merging terrestrial beauty with cosmic elegance, this intergalactic showpiece necklace should be crafted entirely from natural botanical materials. Each element — pressed petals, sculpted seed pods, woven fibers — evokes celestial forms: orbiting moons, solar flares, comets, nebulae in bloom.

Mounted against a deep black velvet display (7 inches at the shoulder), the design radiates like a constellation in the void. The Stellar Bloom is more than jewelry — it's an astral artifact, a wearable tribute to the harmony between nature and the universe.

Entry may not exceed the size of the mount. Entry will be displayed on a 42" high table draped with a black tablecloth. Judged from three sides and above. Sample card and statement of intent are required. Mount supplied by the committee, to be mailed or delivered locally upon registration.

Fee: \$20



SECTION B. BOTANICAL EMBELLISHMENT

Botanical Embellishment: *a man-made object enhanced with dried plant material. Plant material may be treated. Complete coverage of the object is not required unless stated in a flower show schedule.*

Class 2 Ancient Astronomical Grandeur **4 Entries**

Draw inspiration from antique celestial charts — those beautifully detailed vintage maps of the heavens — and reinterpret them by embellishing a (10" x 7") wooden tray using all-natural botanical materials. Step into a universe once mapped by hand and now reborn to echo the constellations, planetary paths, and the intricate geometry of the stars. The result is a timeless showpiece that bridges the 17th-century astronomer's lens with the beauty of nature.

Entry will be displayed angled on a plate stand on a 42" high table draped with a black tablecloth. Tray should be completely covered with botanical material. Design should not exceed more than 2 inches on the front and side edges of the tray and no excess on the back. Judged from three sides. Sample card and statement of intent are required. Tray and stand supplied by the committee, to be mailed or delivered locally upon registration.

Fee: \$20



SECTION D. BOTANICAL FORMS

Botanical Forms: *a design of any other form (e.g., not Botanical Jewelry, Botanical Embellishment, or Botanical Couture) created entirely from dried plant material. Plant material may be treated. Mechanics or structural base material may not be visible.*

Class 3 Celestial Botanica

4 Entries

Capture the wonder of the cosmos with Celestial Botanica. Create a one-of-a-kind hanging ornament inspired by the Sun, moon, planets, comets, or other celestial object, bringing the majesty of space down to earth.

The design will be staged and hung from an ornament display stand, which should not be embellished. Entry will be displayed on a 42" high table draped with a black tablecloth. Ornament should not exceed 6 inches in diameter in any direction. Judged from all sides. Sample card and statement of intent are required. Stand supplied by the committee, to be mailed or delivered locally upon registration.

Fee: \$20



Division V: Education

Majestic Mission

Guidelines

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information, and the Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. Education exhibits may be executed by any invited person(s), organization or business wishing to communicate information relevant to the educational message of the flower show.
3. Include a statement of intent (50 words or less) for each Education Exhibit.
4. Scale of points by which Education Exhibits are to be judged: (as per *FS & JG Book 4: Judging at Flower Shows, 2024 edition*).

Educational value	60
Staging	20
<u>Creativity and distinction</u>	<u>20</u>
Total	100

Division V Chairmen:

Sue White	713-304-3372	sueandbuz@earthlink.net
Adele Bentsen	713-819-7821	adelebentsen@me.com
Amy Lee	713-557-3335	amylee@sbcglobal.net
Julie Price	713-446-5402	jringoprice@gmail.com

Division V: Education

Majestic Mission

Education Exhibit



From Seedlings to Skylines: America's Reforestation Mission

Reforestation is a vital part of global conservation efforts, as it helps restore ecosystems, protect biodiversity, regulate the climate and support human livelihoods. By replanting trees, we not only revive habitats and absorb carbon dioxide but also stabilize soil and maintain vital water cycles. Tied with advancements in space technology, reforestation becomes even more effective - satellites monitor forest health, track deforestation, and guide precision planting efforts using high-resolution data. Climate models based on satellite observations help scientists understand the long-term impact of tree restoration on global systems. This synergy between Earth care and space science underscores how innovations from above can help us protect and restore life below, reminding us that as we explore beyond our planet, our first responsibility remains to preserve and heal it. The Garden Club of Houston participates in the Longleaf Pine Restoration Project in the Big Thicket National Preserve located in Texas.

Statement of Intent:

Explore the multilayered approach to America's forest restoration, spanning federal land management to backyard conservation. Learn about large-scale reforestation projects, state-sponsored urban forestry programs, community-led restoration efforts, and simple steps homeowners can take. This exhibit demonstrates how collective action at every level creates lasting environmental impact through strategic tree planting.

GCA Flower Show Awards

The GCA Flower Show Awards described below are approved and will be presented if merited.

Division I, Floral Design

Best in Show Floral Design is selected from first-place winners in the division.

The **Dorothy Vietor Munger Award** may be awarded to members of GCA clubs in competitive Floral Design classes at a GCA Flower Show. It is offered in recognition of creative work of outstanding beauty using predominantly fresh plant material. The design must have placed first, second, or third. Challenge class entries are not eligible. The award is not a substitute for Best in Show and will be given at the discretion of the judges.

The **Harriet DeWaele Puckett Creativity Award** may be awarded to members of GCA clubs or non-members in recognition of a uniquely skillful and creative response to an imaginative schedule in Floral Design. It will be given for an innovative and interpretive entry, which, although it abides by the principles of good design, goes beyond traditional period arrangement to whatever art form the exhibitor(s) chooses. The design must have placed first, second, or third. An entry in any challenge class is not eligible to receive this award. The award is not a substitute for Best in Show and will be given at the discretion of the judges.

The **Sandra Baylor Novice Floral Design Award** may be given at a GCA Flower Show to an exhibitor who is a member of a GCA club and who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the Floral Design Division of a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA, or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. It shall be awarded to an individual novice exhibitor for a unique and skillful response to the schedule. The entry must have placed first, second, or third. An entry in a challenge class is not eligible for this award.

Division II, Horticulture

Best in Show Horticulture is selected from first-place winners in the division.

The **Catherine Beattie Medal** may be awarded for a horticulture entry distinguished by its vibrancy, prime condition, and perfection of grooming. The exhibitor must have owned and grown the exhibit for at least six months. The medal may be awarded for a single plant, collection of plants, container garden, or cut specimen, but only if there is an exhibit worthy of the honor. It may be awarded to members of GCA clubs only; individual, joint, and club entries are

eligible. The entry must have placed first, second, or third. The award should not be considered as a substitute for Best in Show. The medal may not be awarded to the same exhibit more than once; however, the offspring of a Beattie winner are eligible to receive the award.

The **Clarissa Willemsen Horticulture Propagation Award** may be awarded for a horticulture entry distinguished by its prime condition, flawless grooming and difficulty of propagation. The entry must have been propagated and grown by the exhibitor for at least six months. This award may be given for a single rooted plant or a collection of rooted plants. Cut specimens are not eligible. The dates and method of propagation must be recorded on an accompanying propagation card. It may be awarded to GCA club members, GCA clubs, non-members, or other organizations. The entry must have placed first, second, or third. The award may not be given to the same exhibit more than once.

The **Rosie Jones Horticulture Award** may be presented to a horticulture entry of exceptional visual appeal that reflects the spirit of growing with joy and enthusiasm and inspires others to propagate, grow, show and share horticulture. An exhibit that has been propagated by the exhibitor will be given special consideration but propagation is not a requirement. Perfection, while always desirable, is not a primary criterion. This award celebrates the ineffable joy inherent in the beauty and pursuit of horticulture. It may be awarded to GCA club members, GCA clubs, non-members, or other organizations. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

The **GCA Novice Award in Horticulture** may be awarded for an outstanding exhibit to a member of a GCA club who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the Horticulture Division in a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA, or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

Division III, Photography

Best in Show Photography is selected from first place winners in the division.

The **Photography Creativity Award** may be awarded at a GCA Flower Show to a member of a GCA club in recognition of creative and technical excellence in response to the theme of the schedule. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

The **GCA Novice Award in Photography** may be awarded for an outstanding exhibit to a member of a GCA club who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the Photography Division in a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA, or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

Division IV, Botanical Arts

Best in Show Botanical Arts is selected from first place winners in the division.

The **Botanical Arts Creativity Award** may be awarded at a GCA Flower Show to a member of a GCA club for excellent craftsmanship and creative response to the theme of the schedule. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

The **GCA Novice Award in Botanical Arts** may be awarded for an outstanding exhibit to a member of a GCA club who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in the Botanical Arts Division in a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA, or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. The entry must have placed first, second, or third.

Division V, Education

The **Ann Lyon Crammond Award** may be presented at a GCA Flower Shows to an outstanding educational exhibit which best educates the public about gardens. Any educational exhibit which increases the appreciation of any aspect of plants, gardens, or landscape design may be considered for this award. It may be awarded to GCA club members, member clubs, non-members or other organizations.

The **Marion Thompson Fuller Brown Conservation Award** may be presented for an outstanding conservation exhibit at a GCA Flower Show. The award recognizes an exhibit of exceptional educational and visual merit, which increases knowledge and awareness of the environment. The exhibit should emphasize environmental concerns and may demonstrate conservation practices. Plant material may or may not be used and, when appropriate, must be clearly identified. Protected material may be included if such materials are identified as protected and not collected in the wild. It may be awarded to GCA clubs, club members, non-members or other organizations.

Overall (Divisions I - V)

Judges' Commendation(s) may be given to an entry, class, section, special exhibit or other aspect of the show that is of exceptional merit.

Award of Appreciation may be given to an exhibitor or group for participation and/or to recognize exhibits that do not qualify GCA special awards. The award may also be given to non-judged classes.

GCH Club Awards

Division I: Floral Design

The **Gay Estes Flower Arranging Award** may be presented for excellence in floral design in a Garden Club of Houston Flower Show. It must be awarded to a member of The Garden Club of Houston. It is named for a talented arranger, former Vice President of the GCA, former chairman of the GCA Judging Committee, and author of several books on floral design. It is intended to encourage participation and to award a skillful arranger in any class. It may be awarded to two entrants working together. It may be awarded to Best in Show, if the entry demonstrates distinction.

The **Ingrid Kelly Floral Design Award** may be awarded to members of The Garden Club of Houston in competitive floral design classes at a GCH flower show. It is offered in recognition of creative work of outstanding beauty using predominantly fresh plant material. The design must have placed first, second, or third. It may be awarded to two exhibitors working together. Challenge class designs are not eligible. The award is not a substitute for Best in Show and will be given at the discretion of the judges.

Division II: Horticulture

The **Alice Thomas Memorial Horticulture Award** Awarded to a container grown entry with exceptional visual appeal. It is named in memory of Alice Thomas, a Horticulture Judge, Zone IX Horticulture Representative, GCA Horticulture Committee Vice Chair, and mentor to many. Grooming and presentation are the primary considerations. To be awarded at a Club or GCA Flower Show sponsored by The Garden Club of Houston, to a Garden Club of Houston member, when merited.

The **Nancy Thomas Horticulture Award** may be presented to a Garden Club of Houston member, when merited, for excellence in horticulture in a Garden Club of Houston Flower Show. It is named for an accomplished horticulturist and former President of The Garden Club of America. It is intended to encourage participation and to reward distinction. Eligible entries may come from any horticulture class but must have been grown by the entrant for a minimum of six months. Special consideration should be given to entries grown organically. Entries that have previously won this award are not eligible.

Division III: Photography

Best Interpretation of the Schedule

Division IV: Botanical Arts

The **Debbie Robinson Botanical Arts Award** – Awarded to a Botanical Arts entry that displays exceptional craftsmanship and distinction. It is named to honor Debbie Robinson, a dual Judge from The Garden Club of Houston, and the high standard that she has set in Botanical Arts, leading to her prolific award history. To be awarded at a Club or GCA Flower Show sponsored by The Garden Club of Houston, to a Garden Club of Houston member, as merited.





DIVISION I, Floral Design Registration Form

Registration Deadline: January 22, 2026

Please complete one Registration Form per entry.

Email to: Tara Caldwell
tthmcaldwell@sbcglobal.net

Please print using block letters.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Co-Exhibitor(s): _____

Class Number

Class Title

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

Novice? Yes/No (individual exhibitor only)

A novice is an individual exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Floral Design at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chair or class consultant.



DIVISION II, Horticulture Registration Form

Registration is not required for cut specimen classes.

Registration is required for Classes 59 and 60 (any GCA member) and for Classes 61 and 62 (GCH members only).

Please complete one Registration Form per entry.

Registration Deadline: January 22, 2026

Email to: Nancy Kelley
nancywilsonkelley@gmail.com

Please print using block letters.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Co-Exhibitor(s): _____

Class Number: _____ Class Title: _____

Novice? Yes/No (individual exhibitor only)

A novice is an individual exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Floral Design at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chair or class consultant.

BLAST OFF

Houston, we have a Flower Show!

DIVISION III, Photography Registration Form

Registration Deadline: January 22, 2026

Please complete one Registration Form per entry.

Email to: Mimi Kerr
mimi.kerr@icloud.com

Please print using block letters.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Co-Exhibitor(s): _____

Class Number

Class Title

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

Novice? Yes/No (individual exhibitor only)

A novice is an individual exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Floral Design at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chair or class consultant.



DIVISION IV, Botanical Arts Registration Form

Registration Deadline: January 22, 2026
Please complete one Registration Form per entry.

Email to: Shirley Rouse
shirley.rouse@sbcglobal.net

Please print using block letters.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Co-Exhibitor(s): _____

Class Number

Class Title

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

Fee: _____

Novice? Yes/No (individual exhibitor only)

A novice is an individual exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Floral Design at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chair or class consultant.

BLAST OFF

Houston, we have a Flower Show!

↑TOP↑ PHOTOGRAPHY SUBMISSION FORM ↑TOP↑

This form must be copied and affixed to the back of the photograph mounting when entry is mailed or submitted.

Photograph Delivery Deadline: MARCH 24, 2026

Please complete two submission forms per photograph. Affix one form to the back of the mounting and include the second loose form with the entry.

Send photograph to: Mimi Kerr, 3763 Purdue Street, Houston, Texas 77005.

Send a jpg file between 1-5 MB to mimi.kerr@icloud.com. Rename your image to YourFirstNameYourLastNameClassNumber.jpg. (example mimikerrclass2.jpg) by entry deadline date.

Class Entered: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Return postage and packaging have been provided. Yes/No

Identifiable Plant Material (required Class 1 and Class 5): _____

Title or brief statement of intent (25 words or less):

Novice? Yes/No

A novice is an exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Photography at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chairs.

If an exhibit is to be returned, the exhibitor must provide a self-addressed return label, return postage, and packing material/container and a \$15 check (payable to The Garden Club of Houston) to cover return postage and handling. See item 19 of the Photography Guidelines.



BOTANICAL ARTS SUBMISSION FORM

This form must be copied and included when entry is mailed or submitted.

Botanical Arts Delivery Deadline: APRIL 1, 2026

Please complete one submission form per entry.

Deliver or send entries to: Shirley Rouse
714 Glen Echo
Houston, TX 77024
713-446-4144 shirley.rouse@sbcglobal.net.

Class Entered: _____

Name: _____

Garden Club and Zone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Return fee and packaging have been provided. Yes/No

Sample Card with Botanical and Common Name plus placement: _____

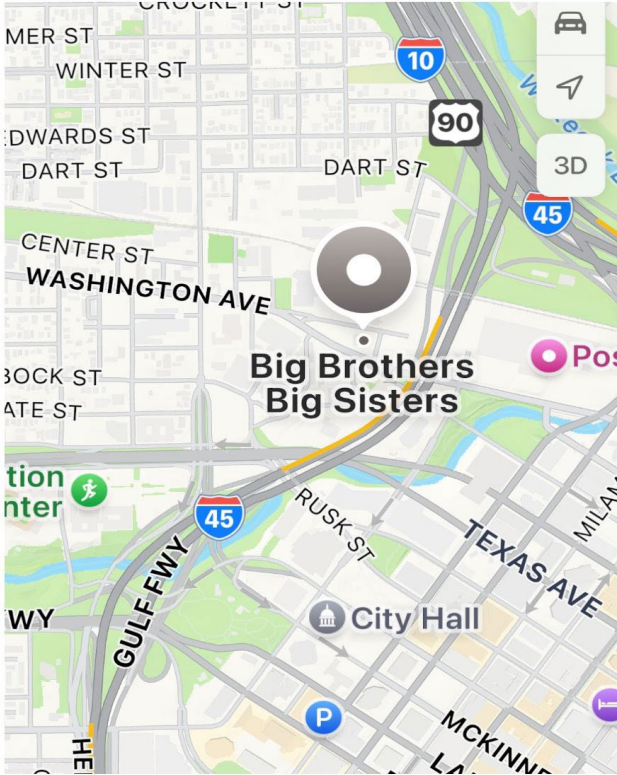
Title or brief statement of intent (25 words or less):

Novice? Yes/No

A novice is an exhibitor who has never won first place or GCA Special Award in Photography at a GCA, GCA Major, sanctioned non-GCA or sanctioned non-GCA Major Flower Show. If your novice status changes before the date of this show, please notify the division chairs.

If an exhibit is to be returned, the exhibitor must provide a self-addressed return label, packing material/container, and a \$15 check (payable to The Garden Club of Houston) to cover return postage and handling.

Map & Directions to the Flower Show



Big Brothers Big Sisters

1003 Washington Avenue
Houston, Texas 77002

BBBS is located at 1003 Washington Avenue, at the corner of Franklin St. and Mentor Way. There is a small parking lot on site with spots for drop off and pick up. Additional parking is available on the street and at the Amtrak parking lot off Washington Avenue.

